



Local ordnance search ongoing

By **JOE FERRARE**

Garrison APG Public Affairs Specialist

A search for unexploded or discarded munitions that has been going on in out-of-the-way locations on Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood) will become more visible in coming months as investigators move their efforts into more populated areas.

The Military Munitions Response Program is a Congressionally mandated effort to inventory all military ranges

and find out what hazards may be posed by unexploded or discarded munitions.

The program includes former ranges on which work places or communities have been built, which is the case in some areas of APG. Investigators said that, because the search will move into more populated areas, there is a chance they may have to evacuate a building or other area if they find buried munitions.

Determining which areas to search was a multi-step process that started with a review of historical records, said Pro-

gram Manager Rurik Loder.

"The historical record research asks if there is evidence that these areas were used as ranges or that munitions were uncovered or found within the area. With Edgewood the answer is yes the potential is there; for Aberdeen, not so much," said Loder.

Once investigators narrowed down which parts of the post to search, they used statistical software to determine the

See EXPANDED, page 15

Safety First

Because the search will move into more populated areas, there is a chance they may have to evacuate a building or other area if they find buried munitions.

Determining which areas to search was a multi-step process that started with a review of historical records.

162 eagles call APG home

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**

APG News

The annual aerial survey of Aberdeen Proving Ground bald eagles found 162 that call APG home.

The Jan. 9 count also found one golden eagle.

Golden eagles normally migrate through the area and are not residents, according to Jessica Baylor, an environmental protection specialist with the Directorate of Public Works environmental division.

DPW environmentalists and biologists, wildlife officers from the Directorate of Emergency Services and U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center personnel

See GOLDEN, page 15

RECENT COUNTS

2011: 163 bald eagles

2010: 239 bald eagles

2009: survey not held due to helicopter shortage

2008: 159 bald eagles

2007: 126 bald eagles

2006: 228 bald eagles

A Jan. 30 survey of the same areas was planned to count the eggs in eagle nests.



Courtesy photo

Of the 163 eagles found on Aberdeen Proving Ground, 88 were adults; 51 were sub-adults.

Get your purchase requests in early

AICD news release

The Aberdeen Installation Contracting Division, previously the APG DOC, has established its fiscal year 2011 cutoff dates for submission of purchase requests.

In order to meet customer needs, AICD officials urge customers to submit complete purchase request packages on time. Not doing so could result in the inability to support our major customers—the Soldiers, explained one of the contracting officers.

Cutoff dates are as follows:

- Noncommercial items over \$150,000 – July 1*
- Noncommercial items between \$2,500 for services; \$3,000 for supplies; \$2,000 for construction and \$150,000 – Aug. 2

See SIMPLIFIED, page 14

ECBC employee chairs committee

Special to the APG News

Dr. James Valdes, the senior technologist for biotechnology at the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center played a key role in the 27th Annual Army Science Conference, held recently in Florida. Valdes chaired the Technical Program Committee.

A significant part of his role involved reviewing the hundreds of abstracts submitted last spring by renowned scientists and engineers from the United States and foreign governments, academia and industry seeking to present a paper or poster.

Valdes led the Technical Program Committee that determined which papers and posters were accepted,

See ECBC, page 15



Valdes

Buy back time for early retirement

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**

APG News

A recent article on federal retirement advised civilian federal employees with prior military service that in many cases employees can "buy back" their active duty time and add it to their civilian service years to retiree earlier.

Many federal employees with prior military service assume that military service is automatically credited to civil service retirement. Not so, according to officials with the Office of Personnel Management Retirement and Insurance Service. In some cases, federal employees have been informed just before retiring that the active duty service they thought would count toward their retire-

ment would not, forcing them to delay retirement or take a cut in benefits.

According to a release from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, people should start planning long before retirement by asking questions. DFAS advises employees to start formal planning for retirement about five years in advance.

Public Law 97-0253, dated Sept. 8, 1982, provides federal employees the opportunity to buy into the civil service retirement fund for military service performed after 1956.

The law divides employees into two groups – those covered by the Civil Service

See BUYING, page 15

Under CSRS retirement, employees receive credit for eligibility purposes with or without a deposit.

Teri Wright
APG CPAC

WEATHER

Thurs.



31°|23°

INDEX

Pg 2 **Weather**
Pg 2 .. **Letter to the Editor**
Pg 5 .. **From the Garrison**
Pg 9 **FMWR**
Pg 10 **Post Shorts**
Pg 11 **Com Notes**
Pgs 12 & 13 **Classifieds**



The APG News gives readers the skinny on the dangers, and delights, of our modern world with Tech Talk, a monthly tech column for non-techies.

Tech Talk
page 14



Ready for vacation?
page 4

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DON'T MISS IT

The next Garrison APG Community Action Council is set Feb. 17 at the APG South (Edgewood) post chapel 9:30 a.m.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Employee questions construction

Referencing a brief article that ran on the front page of the Sept. 30 APG News, I recently noticed while coming in the Route 22 gate that the area where the 210 new homes will be built is in the green open fields where no housing currently exists.

Assuming that these 210 homes will be built to replace existing housing leaves me with questions and concerns. As an APG community member, I do not understand why these homes would be built on one of APG’s remaining open space areas. Why not demolish the existing housing and replace with new homes so that existing roads, electric, sewer and water can continue to be used? During BRAC construction, I witnessed how quickly the school area’s buildings could be removed, so I do not think that timing would have been an issue.

Also, with construction of this magnitude taking place, I also would have thought that a public meeting that invited the APG community to take part would have been appropriate. I am just asking the questions since the September article leads one to believe that the houses would be constructed in an area that was already built up since it referred to the area as the “Bayside neighborhood.”

Lastly, the article states that the homes will house junior and senior NCOs. Will we really have 210 NCOs? I was under the impression that most of the housing was vacated and was being opened up to DoD civilians, retirees, etc. to try to expand usage.

If this is the case, why does APG want to be involved in the housing industry, adding more traffic to the already backed-up roads and gates? Why not let Harford County handle the housing issue?

This is not a complaint, merely my observation.

Thank you.

Larry D. Birchfield
ATC Environmental Officer

Post officials explain housing blueprint

The following response was provided by installation leadership and Picerne Military Housing:

As part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, the Installation leadership and Picerne Military Housing partnered at Aberdeen Proving Ground to build, renovate and improve housing and the quality of life for military Families.

The partnership, which has just started its second year, is long-term and focused on the sustainability of housing and enhancing the quality of Family and community life at Aberdeen.

The plan

The garrison commander and Picerne have worked together to develop the Community Management Development Plan, or CDMP, which is the blueprint for the 50-year project. This plan has been reviewed and approved by the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, Office of Management and Budget and Congress.

The CDMP was established over a year-long timeframe with input from both partners and the local community in order to meet the needs of Families and the changing installation. The partnership went to great lengths during the planning phase to ensure that the neighborhood and homes are designed to appeal to today’s modern, military Families.

It has been 20 years since the last new home was constructed at Aberdeen. Picerne broke ground and began construction efforts this fall to build 210 new homes.

Where to build

The decision on the location of the new homes was based on land use, zoning restrictions and the ability to use the existing infrastructure. The “green space” where the new homes are being built formerly had homes on the site and the existing infrastructure is being utilized when feasible. This allows more money to be spent on providing the highest quality homes to the Families living on post.

Community feedback

As part of the process of selecting a location for the new homes, APG invited the public to comment on an Environmental Assessment (EA) addressing the implementation of the Department of the Army’s Residential Communities Initiative at APG in September of 2008. A Notice of Availability and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) were published in the Aegis, Cecil Whig, Baltimore Sun and Kent County News. There was a 30-day public comment period, and the EA and Draft FNSI were available for review at the APG Public Affairs Office; Harford County Public Library, Aberdeen Branch and Edgewood Branch; and Kent county Public Library, Chestertown Branch.

Housing the troops

At APG, Bayside Village will be the primary area of development; 210 new homes will be constructed to house junior enlisted, NCOs and company grade officers and their Families. Picerne will also 162 major renovations—97 historic home renovations and 65 renovations that will combine existing, smaller duplex houses into spacious single-Family homes.

Construction efforts will take place over the course of a six-year Initial Development Period, or IDP. The program to build and renovate homes is funded through revenue raised by rent received from Families (including civilians) living on post.

More green space

All Basic Allowance for Housing and rents received from existing homes go back into the program to build and renovate the 372 homes identified in the CDMP over the initial six years. The end state of 372 homes is based on the optimal number to accommodate only military Families.

The number of homes and rank distribution were determined through the Housing Market Analysis, completed prior to privatization. At the end of the IDP, Patriot Village, Skipper’s Point and New Chesapeake housing areas will be demolished and these areas will be used mostly for “green space.”

Materials including some existing infrastructure—curb and gutter and asphalt from the roads—will be recycled and used in future development. All existing concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks will be crushed and reused as road base for the new roads within the development.

Speaking of the future

As part of the construction effort, the new home development area will use natural landscape features, established land planning principles and reuse existing roads and infrastructure where possible.

Many areas of demolition will be restored as green spaces. Potential environmental impacts of the project were investigated and all comply with Maryland Department of Environment, state, federal and local requirements as well as Best Management Practices.

Picerne has an extensive sustainability program including energy efficient homes and constantly strives to be a leader in environmental stewardship. The partnership of APG and Picerne Military Housing has a passion and commitment to improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families by providing them with a quality place to call home.

OPINION

Some question soldiering conflicts with ministry

Keeping the faith

By **CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) MICHAEL WOOD**
Fort Knox Community Chaplain

Soldiers often ask me, “How can you reconcile being a chaplain and being a Soldier?” The question usually comes up after they find out that I wasn’t always a chaplain. I was an artillery officer for 11 years.

Soldiers sense some incongruence between being a minister and hurling steel downrange. “How can you be a

chaplain after being a line officer?” they ask.

The question originates from a misunderstanding of the commandment, “Thou shalt not kill” (Exodus 20:13 King James Version). The word “kill” is better translated “murder” in most of the newer translations. The prohibition is not against killing in general. Indeed God commands his people to kill animals and enemies when it is necessary. Murder is to take justice into your own hands and kill someone in anger or vengeance.

There is no commandment against being a Soldier or performing duties that may involve killing.

In fact, Paul says that Soldiers are ministers. He writes that the government does not bear the sword in vain (Romans 13:1-5). Those who bear arms for legitimate governments should view what they do as a calling from God. It

is a weighty stewardship; a responsibility that must be born with great care and grace.

Soldiers came to John the Baptist and asked him what they should do to repent. He told them not to abuse their power and to be content with their wages (Luke 3:14). Both admonitions apply to the modern day Soldier as well!

We wield great authority, the power of life and death. We must be careful to act under the authority of the state rather than according to our personal motives.

As far as wages go, Soldiers have never been on the high end of the pay scale. Part of serving is sacrifice; being content with less. Note that John did not tell them to get out of the Army! Since John was a straight shooter, I assume that he had no moral qualms with Soldiers serving the government.

Finally, let’s look at Jesus’ reaction to

Soldiers as recorded in Luke 7:1-9.

A centurion approached Jesus asking Him to heal his servant. Jesus agreed and began to go with the centurion. Then the commander said, “Lord, I understand your authority. You don’t have to come with me. Just say the word and my servant will be healed” (my paraphrase). Jesus marveled at this response of faith. He said that he had not yet seen such great faith.

I believe that Soldiers are predisposed to faith because they understand authority. In other words, far from rebuking the centurion for being a Soldier, Jesus commended him for his great faith!

Soldiering is a sanctified profession. The U.S. military is the greatest peace-making organization in the history of the world. I have been called many things, “chaplain, pastor, counselor,” but none so honorable as the title: “Soldier!”

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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9th AML completes training exercise

By **CHRISTOPHER BUSH**
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

After months of preparation and training, the Soldiers of the 9th Area Medical Laboratory successfully completed a rigorous culminating training event Jan. 20.

The multi-day event, which brought together experts from the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, and the U.S. Army Public Health Command, was designed to prepare the unit for an upcoming deployment later in the year.

“This culminating training event validated the tough training that we have done over the past year to prepare our Soldiers for our upcoming deployment,” 9th AML commander Col. Rachel Armstrong stated in an email. “We brought in technical experts from ECBC, USAMRIID, and PHC to validate our technical abilities at the individual level and we received high marks in all of the areas observed.”

The highly-trained Soldiers of the 9th AML are a unique unit within the Department of Defense. They are able to deploy world-wide as a unit or by task-organized teams to perform surveillance, confirmatory analytical laboratory testing and health hazard assessments of environmental, occupational, endemic and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive threats in support of force protection and weapons of mass destruction missions.

“The 9th AML prides itself on its technical knowledge and expertise. The 9th AML worked very hard this past year with the Public Health Command to increase our Force Health Protection mission,” Armstrong stated. “We regard a fully deployed Area Medical Laboratory as a force multiplier – providing actionable information to commanders in theater. I am very proud of this unit and we are all ready to support the Warfighters.”

During the training event, Soldiers travelled to a simulated Forward Operated Base outside the post to gather samples of air, water, and soil and returned to their

mobile laboratories set up on post. Upon return, the collected samples were tested by the Soldier-scientists of the 9th AML.

“I checked the different properties that the samples may have like chlorine, temperature and pH levels to see if there are any spikes in those that might be important,” said Spc. Aisa Catherman,

a preventive medicine specialist.

These types of tests and procedures are critical for the health and safety of service-members and civilians operating in challenging environments downrange.

Engineers worry about the impact Soldiers make on the environment, 9thAML Soldiers worry about

the impact of the environment on the Soldiers, Catherman said.

The hands-on training and real-world scenarios proved extremely beneficial to many of Soldiers, like Catherman, who are fairly new to the 9th AML and the Army.

“This training is really good practice for us. You get better with repetition and we have done a lot of this before during the regular workday but this gives us actual experience in a field setting,” Spc. Daniel Davis, a laboratory technician said.

Davis’ fellow lab tech Spc. Robbie Carter said he gained some additional insights during the CTE that he believed would help him during the upcoming deployment.

“We’re learning different methods and different software. We just had some training at ECBC about some different things that we might see,” Carter said. “Going out into the field and getting samples and getting a feel for how the whole process works is good.”

The insights gained during the CTE and the various other training exercises the 9th AML has completed during their preparations will be critical to the safety and security of their fellow Soldiers in the field.

“This exercise has gone really smoothly,” Staff Sgt. Willard Sponaugle Jr., Endemic Disease NCOIC, said. “We had everything we needed to accomplish whatever tests that we wanted to do.”



Courtesy photo

Spc. Robbie Carter, a laboratory technician for the 9th Area Medical Laboratory, goes through the testing process for air, water, and soil samples taken from a simulated forward operation base during the 9th AML’s culminating training event Jan. 20 at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood).



U.S. Army photo

The Edelweiss Lodge and Resort balconies overlook the Bavarian Alps in Garmish, Germany. For more information, visit ArmyMWR.com.

Win a vacation getaway with the Exchange and AFRC

AAFES

Exchange patrons can chase away the winter blues by shopping at the Exchange and entering to win a week-long vacation at their choice of four Armed Forces Recreation Centers.

The giveaway includes roundtrip airfare for one lucky Family of four and seven nights at either the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany, Shades of Green Orlando, Fla., Hale Koa in Hawaii or Dragon Hill Lodge in Seoul, Korea.

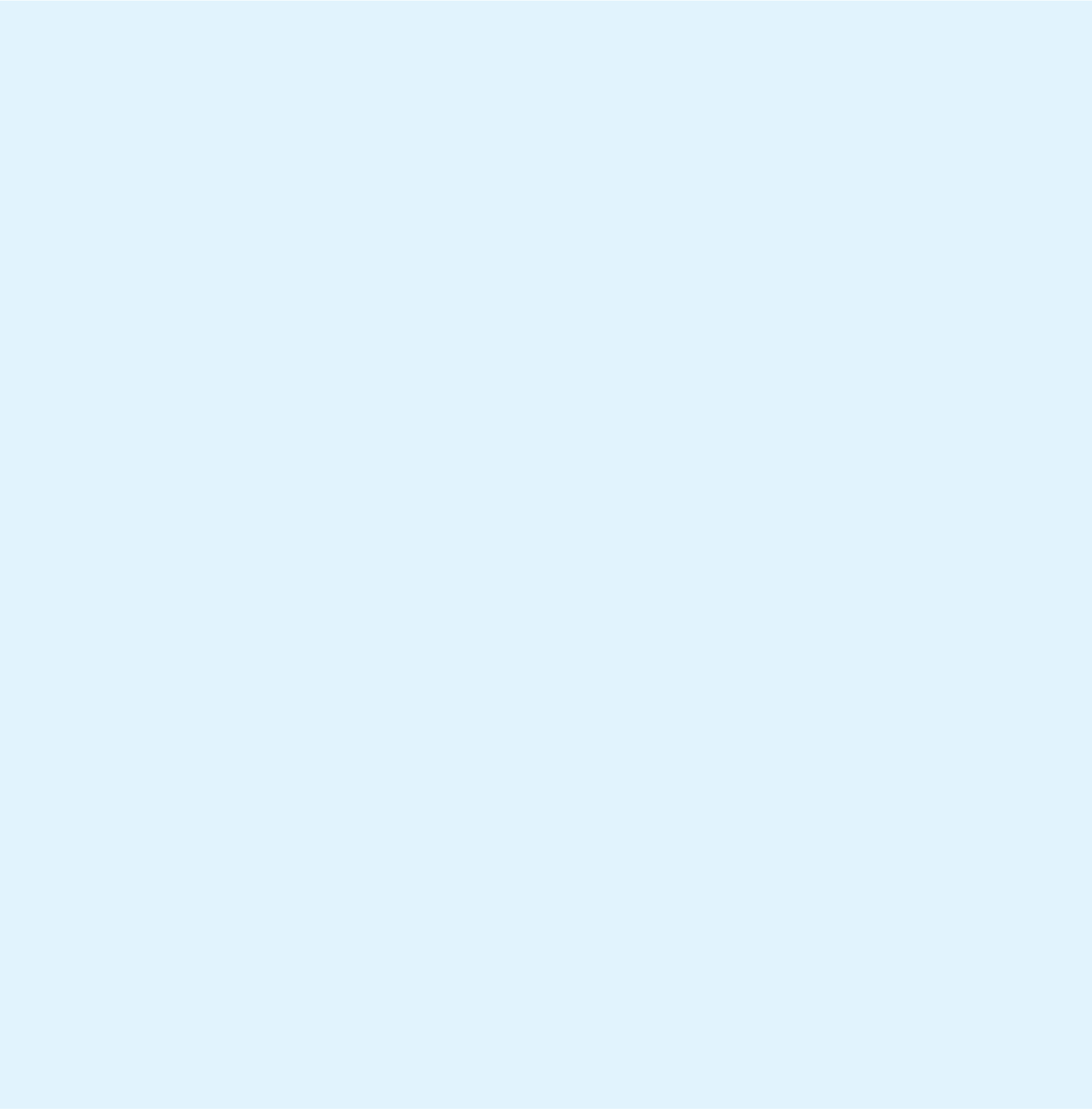
“Exchange shoppers won’t want to miss the chance to win a free Family resort trip,” said the Exchange’s Chief of Staff Col. Virgil Williams, “AFRC centers worldwide offer Family vacations in scenic destinations; our shoppers can enter to win now through Jan. 23rd.”

All authorized Army and Air Force Exchange Service patrons 18 and older are eligible to win; no purchase is necessary to enter at any Army or Air Force Exchange. The vacation drawing will take place on or about February 11th and entrants need not be present to win.



U.S. Army photo

The Dragon Hill Lodge, located in Seoul, Korea, is one of four Armed Forces Recreation Centers operated by the U.S. Army Family and MWR Command. The resorts offer 5-star accommodations to service members on a sliding scale, so privates can enjoy the same quality of life as a 4-star general when on R&R leave or vacationing with their family.



From the Garrison

Lighthouse a beacon for APG growth

Few things capture the spirit of APG’s pivot to the future like the Pooles Island lighthouse. I’m sure many of you have seen images of the lighthouse in various places, but I’d like to share some of that landmark’s past and our plans for its future to cast some light on why it is such a perfect pairing of structure and symbol.

The lighthouse that is becoming our beacon was built in 1825. The shallow waters west of Pooles Island had claimed several ships, which probably explains why it is one of the oldest in the Chesapeake Bay and in fact, the oldest standing lighthouse in Maryland. While it is connected to the bay, its roots are strictly local: architect John Donahoo constructed it from granite quarried in Port Deposit. He built a dozen lighthouses in the bay area, including the Concord Point lighthouse in Havre de Grace, which is a twin of our own.

The island on which the lighthouse sits also boasts some notable history, including being a stop along the supply lines during the Revolutionary War and being plundered by the British during the War of 1812. Those 200 acres were never heavily developed, however.

When the Army bought the land that now makes up APG, the lighthouse, keeper’s home and some associated buildings were the only things on the island besides a few farms. The Bureau of Lighthouses, as it was called prior to being integrated into the operations of the Coast Guard, retained seven acres around the lighthouse and automated the light.

The post’s mission kept expanding, and that area eventually became an active range and the need for a lighthouse diminished. In 1939 the lighthouse went dark. It has remained that way for 72 years.

The post didn’t completely forget the lighthouse, however. It was rehabilitated in the mid-1990s and listed on the

National Register of Historic Places in 1997. It has been an object of interest for lighthouse buffs around the nation, those who have business on Pooles Island, and occasionally some who do not.

Like much of the land behind the fence line, the island has become a de facto wildlife sanctuary. It boasts four active eagle’s nests and healthy populations of heron, fox, osprey, deer and more. This is, of course, part of the

tradeoff: very few people can visit the island and see the historic lighthouse for themselves, but that isolation allows it to co-exist with nature, which is such an important part of our future.

The rehabilitation project in the ‘90s was headed up by Terri Kaltenbacher, who has returned to work on getting the lighthouse back in working order. Our goal for this project is to turn back those 72 years of darkness and turn the symbolism of APG lighting the way into an actuality. We are currently drawing up a full slate of activities for the week of Armed Forces Day. A ceremony to relight the lighthouse will be one of the high points.

I think you can see how powerful this historic symbol is for the evolving APG community. We are becoming a more diverse community as people and organizations move here to join forces with the team that has been here from the beginning.

This new community will power the premier high-technology installation in the Army, building, testing and fielding solutions that will light the way to the Army’s technological future, while remaining aware and respectful of our past, and protecting the environmental legacy of our Chesapeake Bay heritage.

The Pooles Island lighthouse is a touchstone for all those threads, one we will bring back to the forefront as we shape the new Team APG.

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz

Commander, U.S. Army Garrison APG

“The island on which the lighthouse sits also boasts some notable history.”



Courtesy photo

When the Army bought the land that now makes up APG, the lighthouse, keeper’s home and some associated buildings were the only things on the island besides a few farms.

Army Fraud Unit recovers \$1.6 billion

Story and photo by
COLBYT. HAUSER
U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command

Billions of American dollars are paid to contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan, both large and small. Everything from ammunition to nasal spray is purchased on contract, and then shipped by another contracted organization to an Army post, camp or station somewhere in the world.

Within this labyrinth of logistics and paper drills, opportunity to defraud the United States Government is ever present, resulting in undue hardship for those who serve.

However, for one military organization, this maze of price points and delivery schedules is their battlefield. The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's Major Procurement Fraud Unit, or MPFU, is a diversified organization of highly-trained special agents who bring to the fight a wealth of experience in forensic accounting, law and logistics, and are well versed in the investigation of fraud and corruption cases.

Unlike the majority of modern military units, MPFU has the distinct honor of being one of a handful of commands within the Department of Defense that actually creates revenue for the United States government. Throughout the past decade, MPFU's recoveries total more than \$1.6 billion, with more than \$411 million returned directly to the Army.

Restitution from companies or individuals found liable in MPFU investigations is normally paid to the U.S. Treasury, however, funds are occasionally returned directly to the Army, depending on the circumstances of the offense(s), duration of the offense and the specific type of contract.

Headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, MPFU centrally directs and coordinates criminal investigations into allegations of major procurement fraud, defective pricing, corruption, kickbacks, money laundering, antitrust violations and other offenses involving major procurement and/or major acquisition systems in which the U.S. Army has a vested interest.

But for MPFU special agents, it's more than just following a paper trail.

"Practically all goods and services from Fort Bragg (N.C.) to Afghanistan are bought through the contracting process, so naturally there's opportunity



The Major Procurement Fraud Unit, or MPFU, is a diversified organization of highly trained special agents conduct criminal investigations into allegations of major procurement fraud, defective pricing, corruption, kickbacks, antitrust violations and miscellaneous incidents involving major procurement and/or acquisition systems where the U.S. Army has a vested interest.

for those dishonest folks who wish to break the law and take advantage of the Army," said James Podolak, the director of MPFU. "We will work to not only put you in jail for fraud or corruption, but take all the spoils of your crime; your house, your cars, property, illicit bank accounts, and you will be barred from doing business with the U.S. government, period."

"It's not just about the money. It's about justice. It's about taking care of those young men and women at the end of the contracting paper trail who live or die based on being provided the best training, equipment or services that the Army can buy," he said.

Podolak said on average, an MPFU case can take anywhere from two to

three years, sometimes longer depending on many variables including the complexity of the contract, number of subjects, and because fraud cases are often prosecuted in both criminal and civil courts. This affords the Army the greatest opportunity to recoup as much as possible from those involved in an investigation.

Whereas traditional CID investigations are closed and turned over for prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, MPFU cases are investigated and prosecuted under federal statutes and courts.

"When we open a case, we begin by looking at the possibilities of the best overall remedies for the Army including civil and criminal prosecution," he said.

"Then our Special Agents stay with it and work with the U.S. Attorney office through the pre-trial, trial and sentencing processes, which is another reason why some of our cases take so long."

One investigation, originating from the San Antonio MPFU office in the fall of 2001 and lasting until this year, put a stop to a corrupt food supplier that could have resulted in the sickening of American Soldiers worldwide.

Samir Itani and his company American Grocers Ltd. (AGL), a major government prime food vendor, directed his employees to falsify USDA stamps on groceries to prolong their shelf life. AGL also submitted inflated claims to the government for the food. These supplies were then shipped overseas for consumption by U.S. troops in the Middle East.

Through the hard work and dedication of the MPFU, Itani and AGL agreed to pay to the U.S. Government the sum of \$15 million for civil culpability as well as a \$1.8 million fine on the criminal side. Itani was sentenced to 24 months in prison and another 36 months of supervised release after his prison sentence.

In another of many cases, MPFU stepped in to assist the local CID office with an investigation involving the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, that revealed a government employee's scheme to defraud the government.

The investigation determined that Bobbie Ryan, a government employee with the Information, Education and Technology Division of West Point, utilized Government Purchase Cards issued to her and others to make false purchases in excess of \$2.9 million from CGW Enterprises, a fictitious company that she created and registered with the state of New York.

Over the course of six and a half years, Ryan used the GPC program to purchase training and associated materials from CGW that were never conducted or delivered. She subsequently withdrew the funds from the CGW account and deposited the money in her personal account.

Visit <http://www.army.mil/-news/2011/01/19/50556-army-fraud-unit-recovers-16-billion/?ref=news-humaninterest-title7> for the complete story.

110 YEARS OF SERVICE

Nurse Corps celebrates anniversary

Army Medical Command Public Affairs

The Army Nurse Corps celebrates the 110th anniversary of its inception on Feb. 2, a milestone for the Corps, and another chapter for its rich history. Army nurses have stood shoulder to shoulder with Soldiers since 1901, providing care not only to the Soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coastguardsmen, serving and retired, but also to their Families. Army nurses have touched the lives of many throughout their history, and so it was fitting that the theme for this year’s anniversary celebration is “Touching Lives for 110 Years” epitomizing the work of Army nurses. “This theme really resonated with me, it is the essence of what Army nurses do, and have done each and every day” said Maj. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho, Depu-

ty Surgeon General and Chief of Army Nurse Corps. Today, more than 9,000 Army nurses serve all over the globe on active duty, in the U.S. Army Reserve, or in the National Guard in support of military and humanitarian mission in support of the war fighter and Army Medicine. The Army Nurse Corps is capitalizing on its legacy built over the years and continues to leverage lessons from the past to ground, gauge, and guide Army Nursing for the future. Horoho developed a four year Campaign Plan, as well as a 15 year strategic blueprint. Horoho has four strategic imperatives that include Leader Development, Warrior Care, Evidence Based Management, and Human Capitol. She believes that at the heart of Army nursing is a triad which

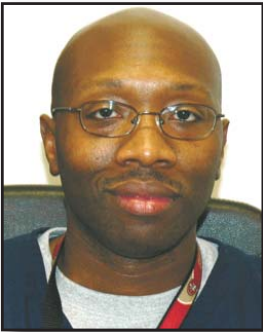
is comprised of active duty, National Guard, reserve and civilian registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, medics and nursing assistants. Horoho is transforming the Corps to ensure the Surgeon General’s Culture of Trust. In that regard, under her guidance and direction, the Army Nursing System of Care (ANSOC) was designed to provide the framework to ensure that the same standard of health care delivery exists in every military treatment facility across the Army. No longer will patients have to navigate the health care system wondering if the care they received at one medical treatment facility was better than another because it was different. Patients experience health care processes that are the same whether they receive the care at

Eisenhower, Walter Reed, or Madigan Army Medical Center for example. Initially piloted at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell, Ky., the ANSOC is being rolled out at Madigan, Brooke and Womack Army Medical Centers and will be implemented across all Army facilities over the next 12 months. At a time when the entire nation is debating health care reform, Horoho believes that the Army Nurse Corps has the opportunity to drive change and support not only Army Medicine but the profession of nursing. The ANSOC is a key enabler for The Surgeon General’s Culture of Trust. Army nursing continues to embrace the past, engage the present and envision the future in support of Army Medicine.

APG nurses speak out



Capt. Eric Mutchie
Department: Primary Care
Occupation: RN, Officer In Charge



Gregory Marshall
Department: General Medicine
Occupation: Army Reserve LPN



Andrea Huson
Department: Occupational Health
Occupation: RN



Beverly Britton
Department: Occupational Health (Edgewood Area)
Occupation: RN



Linda Kenney
Department: Occupational Health (Edgewood Area)
Occupation: LPN

What makes you proud to be a nurse?

I enjoy helping people. Serving in the Army as a nurse has provided me with leadership opportunities that I wouldn’t have had working as a civilian. It also allows me to travel and advance my education.

It still surprises me how many patients say ‘thank you’ to me and show gratitude for the care they are receiving. That, to me, is rewarding. (Also, nurses can make a difference in a atient’s life because they often serve as educators.)

Several people I admired, including the high school nurse, encouraged me to study nursing. I’m glad I did because nursing has always provided me with a steady job, even in a poor economy.

I wanted to be a nurse since I was a 7 years old. I get great satisfaction from helping others.”

I receive instant gratification knowing I am helping patients. It is especially rewarding knowing I am giving care to patients that have served in the military and their Family members.

Financial Peace University classes set at post chapel

APG North post chapel

Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University classes will begin 6:30 p.m. Feb. 17 to May 12 at the main post chapel. Orientation and registration will be held Feb. 10. This 12-week program has helped more than 750,000 Families positively change their financial future. Revised and updated to address unique issues service members face, the class will teach participants how to handle money using common-sense principles and small group accountability. There is something for everyone, whether

you are barely making ends meet or planning for retirement. Nursery services will be provided by the chapel. There is no cost for active duty service members and chapel members. Other participants will be charged \$100 for the DRFPU kits. Participants must attend 10 out of 12 classes or all 12 classes for a certificate. For more information or to register, contact GerriMerkel at 410-278-2516 or gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil; Arcelio Alleyne at 410-278-2450 or Arlene Baptiste at 410-278-2450.

AAFES News

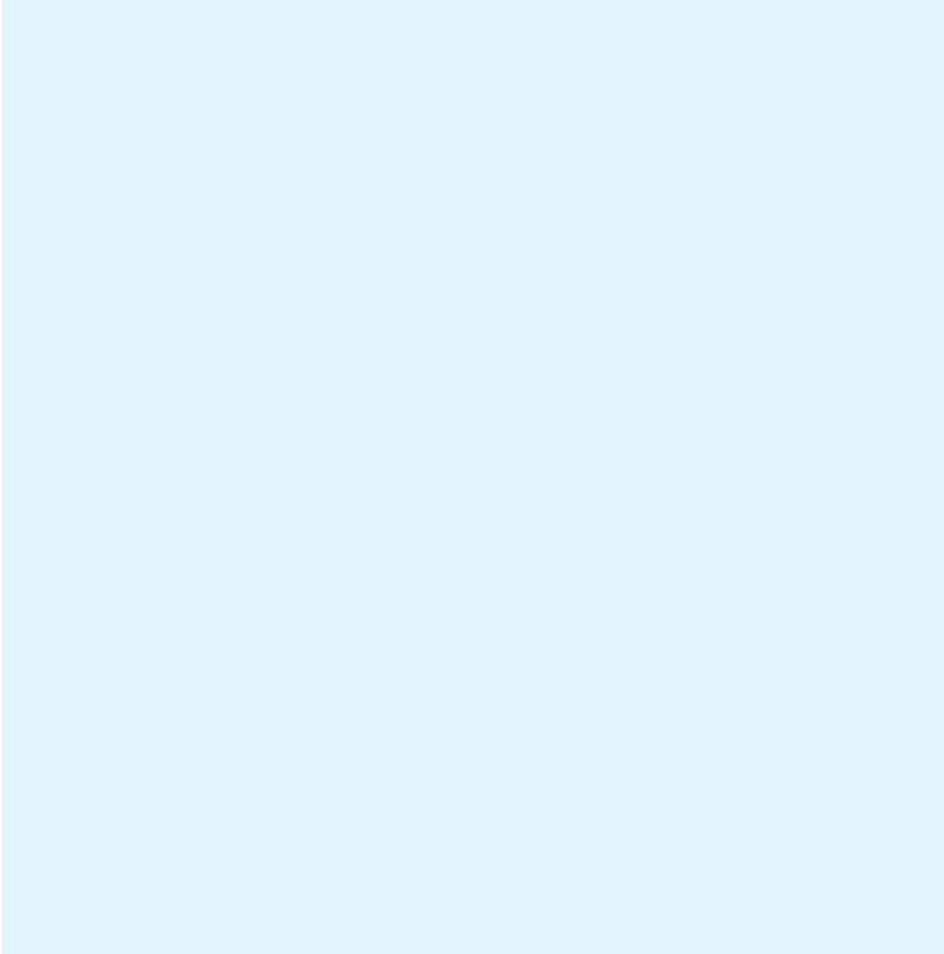
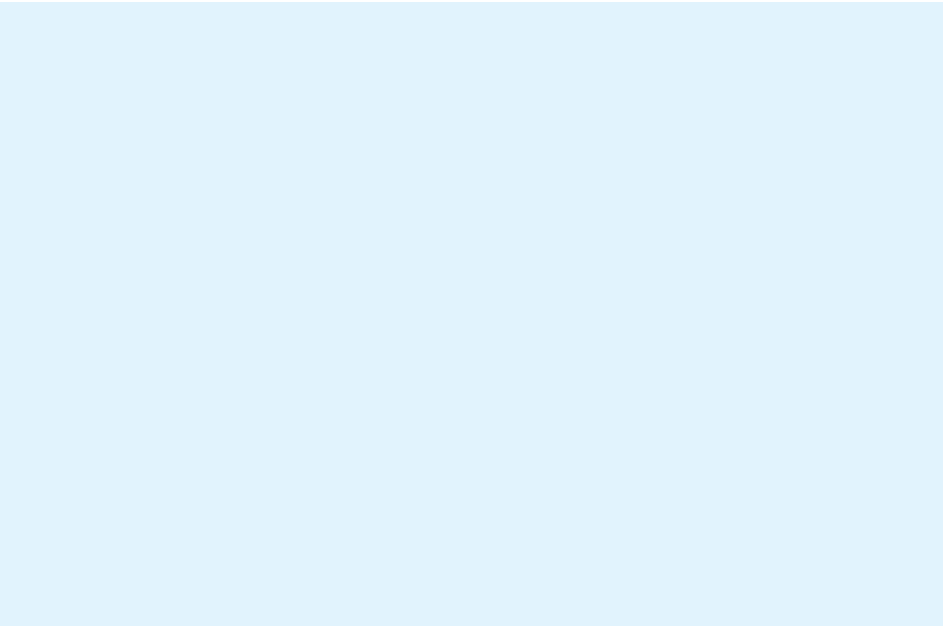
PX honors vets with Valentines, donations

AAFES

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is partnering with authorized patrons by sending Valentine’s Day cards to military veterans. Military shoppers are encouraged to complete a Valentine’s Day card at their nearest Exchange. A table with cards and a box for collecting donated items will located at the front of participating Army and Air Force Exchanges. Each personalized card will be sent to local Veteran’s Hospitals and Fisher House locations.

Exchange patrons can also select from a list of gift items that can be donated to brighten a veteran’s day. “Our veterans and their families have spent their lives supporting our country, now it is our turn to return the honor,” said the Exchange’s Chief of Staff Col. Virgil Williams. “Valentine’s Day only comes once a year, but our appreciation is continuous.” In order to deliver the cards and gifts in a timely manner, the deadline to complete a card or purchase gifts for donations at the Exchange is Feb 7.

Tell them you saw it in the APG News



Test your knowledge with Super Bowl trivia

www.about.com

I. Who holds the Super Bowl record for the most yards receiving in one game?

- 1. Michael Irvin
- 2. Rickey Sanders
- 3. Lynn Swann
- 4. Jerry Rice

Answer: Jerry Rice had 215 yards on 11 catches for the San Francisco 49ers in 1989.

II. Who holds the Super Bowl record for the most rushing touchdowns in one game?

- 1. Terrell Davis
- 2. Emmitt Smith
- 3. John Riggins
- 4. Franco Harris

Answer: Terrell Davis of the Denver Broncos scored three rushing touchdowns in Super Bowl XXXII in 1998.

III. What stadium was the first Super Bowl played in?

- 1. Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
- 2. Louisiana Super dome
- 3. The Orange Bowl
- 4. Lambeau Field

Answer: The first Super Bowl was played at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

IV. Which city has hosted the most Super Bowls?

- 1. Los Angeles
- 2. San Diego
- 3. New Orleans
- 4. Miami

Answer: Miami has played host to ten Super Bowls.

Who was selected Most Valuable Player after the following games?

V. Super Bowl X: Pittsburgh Steelers 21, Dallas Cowboys, 17

- 1. Lynn Swann
- 2. Terry Bradshaw
- 3. Roger Staubach
- 4. John Stallworth

Answer: MVP Lynn Swann had 161 yards and one touchdown on four receptions.

VI. Super Bowl XX: Chicago Bears, 46, New England Patriots, 10

- 1. Walter Payton
- 2. Richard Dent
- 3. Jim McMahon
- 4. William Perry

Answer: MVP Richard Dent recorded 1 1/2 sacks and two forced fumbles.

VII. Super Bowl XV - Oakland Raiders 27, Philadelphia Eagles 10

- 1. Ron Jaworski
- 2. Cliff Branch
- 3. Art Shell
- 4. Jim Plunkett

Answer: MVP Jim Plunkett was 13-of-21 for 261 yards and three touchdowns.

VIII. Who sang the National Anthem at Super Bowl XXXIII in 1999?

- 1. Cher
- 2. Whitney Houston

- 3. Willie Nelson
- 4. Mariah Carey

Answer: Cher sang the National Anthem at Super Bowl XXXIII.

IX. What city hosted the first Super Bowl north of the Mason/Dixon line?

- 1. St. Louis
- 2. Seattle
- 3. Minneapolis
- 4. Detroit

Answer: Detroit hosted Super Bowl XVI, the first event in the northern half of the country, in 1982. The San Francisco 49ers defeated the Cincinnati Bengals, 26-21.

X. Who was the first black quarterback to start in the Super Bowl?

- 1. Randall Cunningham
- 2. Doug Williams
- 3. Vince Evans
- 4. Steve McNair

Answer: Doug Williams started at quarterback for the Redskins, defeating the Denver Broncos 42-10 in Super Bowl XXII.

XI. Who holds the record for the longest kick-off return in Super Bowl history?

- 1. Tim Dwight
- 2. Fulton Walker
- 3. Andre Coleman
- 4. Desmond Howard

Answer: Desmond Howard returned a kickoff 99 yards for Green Bay against New England in Super Bowl XXXI.

XII. Who holds the career Super Bowl record for fumbles?

- 1. Len Dawson
- 2. John Elway
- 3. Jim Kelly
- 4. Roger Staubach

Answer: Roger Staubach fumbled five times in four Super Bowl appearances.

XIII. Which quarterback has completed the most passes (career) in the Super Bowl?

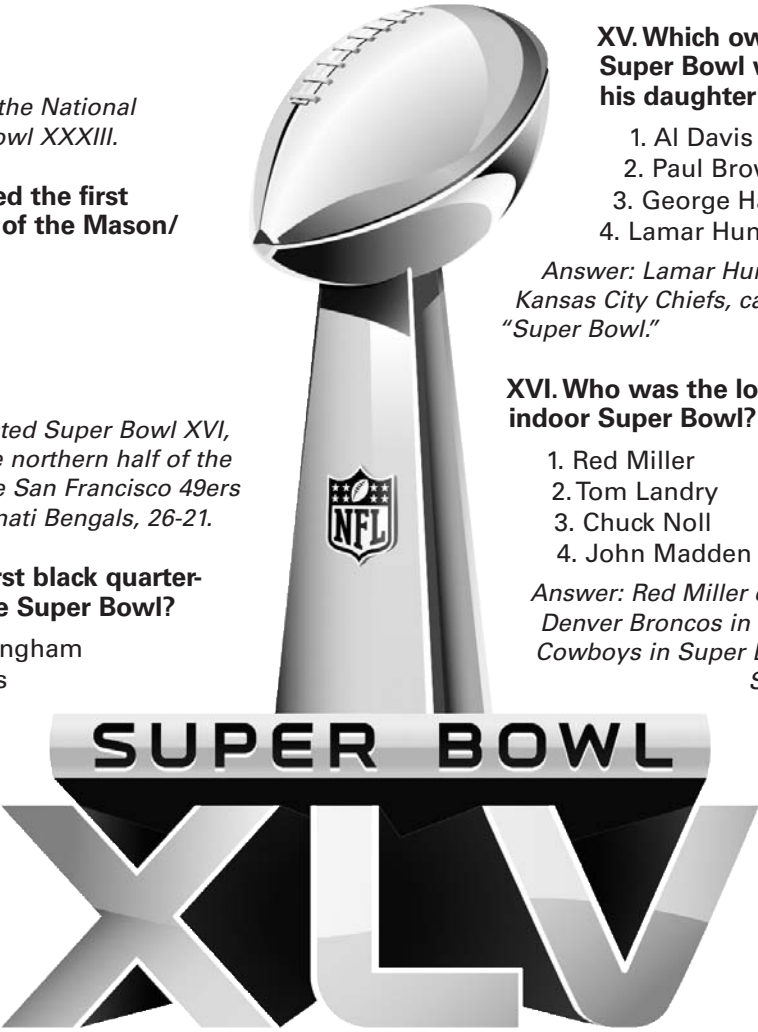
- 1. John Elway
- 2. Jim Kelly
- 3. Tom Brady
- 4. Troy Aikman

Answer: Tom Brady has completed 100 passes in four Super Bowls.

XIV. Who was the first head coach to appear in three consecutive Super Bowls?

- 1. Vince Lombardi
- 2. Hank Stram
- 3. Don Shula
- 4. Weeb Eubank

Answer: Don Shula coached in Super Bowls VI, VII, and VIII.



Super Bowl XLV will be broadcast live on Fox Sports Sunday at 6:30 p.m. ET. This year's championship will pit the NFC champion Green Bay Packers against the AFC champion Pittsburgh Steelers.

XV. Which owner coined the term Super Bowl when he came across his daughter's Super Ball?

- 1. Al Davis
- 2. Paul Brown
- 3. George Halas
- 4. Lamar Hunt

Answer: Lamar Hunt, original owner of the Kansas City Chiefs, came up with the term, "Super Bowl."

XVI. Who was the losing coach in the first indoor Super Bowl?

- 1. Red Miller
- 2. Tom Landry
- 3. Chuck Noll
- 4. John Madden

Answer: Red Miller coached the Denver Broncos in the loss to the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl XII in the Louisiana Super Dome.

XVII. Which player has played in the most Super Bowls?

- 1. Charles Haley
- 2. Mike Lodish
- 3. John Elway
- 4. Preston Pearson

Answer: Mike Lodish played in six Super Bowls, four with the Buffalo Bills and two with the Denver Broncos.

XVIII. Who was the first non-quarterback to win the Super Bowl's Most Valuable Player award?

- 1. Jake Scott
- 2. Chuck Howley
- 3. Randy White
- 4. Richard Dent

Answer: Chuck Howley of the Dallas Cowboys was MVP of Super Bowl V.

XIX. Who was the only player from the losing team to win the Super Bowl MVP award?

- 1. Fran Tarkenton
- 2. John Elway
- 3. Chuck Howley
- 4. Jim Kelly

Answer: Chuck Howley also was the only player to win the Super Bowl MVP after his team lost the game. Howley's team, the Dallas Cowboys, lost to the Baltimore Colts, 16-13.

XX. Which team was the first to win the Super Bowl as a Wild Card?

- 1. Pittsburgh Steelers
- 2. Oakland Raiders
- 3. Denver Broncos
- 4. New England Patriots

Answer: The Oakland Raiders, who defeated the Philadelphia Eagles 27-10 in Super Bowl XV in 1981.

Female Special Ops Program

Female Soldiers: Become a part of history. Join the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Female Engagement Team Program. The Female Engagement Team will challenge female Soldiers.

Soldiers will undergo intense mental and physical training designed to prepare them for the rigors associated with supporting operations with Special Forces and Ranger units in Afghanistan.

Female Soldiers will be trained to think critically, interact with local Afghan women and children and integrate as a member of an elite unit. Once trained, Soldiers will be assigned to the FET program for up to one year as either a Screener or a Cultural Support Team member.

- Minimum requirements include:
- E-4 to E-8, 01 to 03, WO1 to CW3
 - Current minimum GT score of 100 or better
 - Minimum secret clearance
 - PT score of 210 with at least 70 points in each event
 - Meet height and weight IAW with AR 600-9
 - Must carry 35 lbs six miles in at least one hour and 39 minutes
 - Pre-screened by current unit of assignment

For more information, visit <http://www.soc.mil/CST/CST.html>, or call 910-396-0645 (DSN 236) or 910-432-6293 (DSN 239) or e-mail cst@soc.mil.

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

Don't miss country music impersonators

There will be a Tribute Show to celebrate the roots of rock and roll at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center, Bldg. E4140. Doors open at 6 p.m. Members of the Memphis Mafia will be featured. Guests include Sean Jameson as Garth Brooks; Ted Tharp as Elvis; Jim Rapposelli as Johnny Cash; Trevor Biggers and Jim Rapposelli as The Blues Brothers;

Rachel Bauer as Carrie Underwood; and Gary Baker as Bopper G. Admission costs \$5 per person for all active duty and \$10 per person for all others.

For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit MWR Leisure Travel Office in Bldg. 3326 or the EA Recreation Center in Bldg. E4041 or call 410-278-4011.

AFTB Level III training class

ACS Army Family Team Building will host an AFTB Level III training class. This is a volunteer-supported Department of the Army training program designed to teach individuals and families how to be more independent within the military environment. The class will be held 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. March 15 and 16 in ACS Bldg. 2503, upstairs on the second floor in the CYSS conference Room 214.

Pre-registration is required. Call 410-278-2453 for information.

Early morning fitness classes

The Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, Bldg. 3300, will hold boot camp fitness classes from 6 to 6:45 a.m., on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning Feb. 7.

For information, call 410-278-7934/7933.

Indoor walking during lunch

Rain or snow, walkers on APG can still get their exercise every day. Walk at lunch time, 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. Indoor walking with DVD. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil

New to volunteering?

ACS Army Volunteer Corps Program will host a Volunteer Management Information System Class. This class is to help new volunteers register at Myarmyone-source.com, apply for volunteer position and answer questions about the volunteer program. VMIS classes will be held once a month in ACS Bldg. 2503 in the Employment Readiness Room 122.

The first class is set March 1 from 2–3 p.m. The class will again be offered April 1 and May 3 from 2–3 p.m. Slots

are limited. Call 410-278-2453 to register or for information.

Hearts Apart Valentine's Day Card Making Event

Army Community Services Hearts Apart Support Group will host a Valentine's Day Card Making Event, 6 to 7 p.m., Feb. 2 at ACS, Bldg. 2503 High Point Road. There will be light refreshments and gifts for all who participate. All participants will be given the opportunity to decorate a card for their deployed spouse. Hearts Apart seeks to empower Families (military and DOD civilians) with information to help prepare Families for separation during deployments and temporary duties. ACS offers a comprehensive array of programs and services dedicated to maintaining the readiness of the Total Army Family by fostering self-reliance, stability and resilience. Hearts Apart Support Group is just another great way to stay connected in the community and learn what ACS has to offer spouses and their Families.

For more information, call 410-278-2464.

American citizenship class

The Army Community Service Relocation Readiness Office will offer a free class for military personnel, civilian employees and Families preparing to take the test for American Citizenship given by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The class will be held every Thursday, 6 to

8 p.m., March 3 to April 7 at ACS Bldg. 2503 on High Point Road. The class will cover citizenship procedures, how to fill out the application for American Citizenship, basic American History and the Constitution. Attendees must attend all sessions to receive a Harford Community College certificate for attending a citizenship class. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, call the Relocation Readiness Office at 410-278-2464/7572.

Driver's education

Aberdeen

Driver's education classes are scheduled Feb. 28 to March 14; and March 28 to April 11. There are no classes on federal holidays.

Classes will be held Monday to Friday, 5 to 8:15 p.m. at the Ultimate Driving School, LLC, 13 North Parke St. in Aberdeen. Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind the wheel instruction.

The last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

Cost is \$335 per student. Prices are subject to change without notice. Parents must attend on the first and last day of classes with the students.

Edgewood and Abingdon

Driver's education classes are set Feb. 14 to 25 at 423 Edgewood Road in Edgewood.

Classes will be held Monday to Friday, 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind the wheel instruction.

Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18. Open to all DoD ID cardholders. Cost is \$299 per student. Prices are subject to change without notice.

the edge

Reach for the stars with astronomy

The EDGE program offers an Astronomy program for ages 11 to 18, 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays, from Feb. 3 through Feb. 24. Youths will learn more about the stars and galaxies, moon rocks and meteorites and the universe. The program will be held at the Harford Community College Observatory.

Transportation will be provided from the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Youth Services. The bus will leave the EA at 3:20 p.m. and the AA at 3:45 p.m.

The astronomy program is free to active duty military, DoD civilian and contractor Family members. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

hired!

Towson University Campus Tour

There will be a Towson University Campus Tour, 9 a.m., Feb. 12 for high school teens only. Bring money for lunch. Spaces are limited to 10 teens. Sign up at the Child, Youth and School Services central registration, Bldg. 2503. The bus will depart the Aberdeen Area Youth Center Bldg. 2522.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com. All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

The Courses at Aberdeen Proving Ground 2011 Events Calendar

Aberdeen North (Aberdeen) Ruggles Golf Course

February

- Swing into Spring Sale; purchase \$75 or more in Pro Shop and receive complimentary enrollment in March Golf Tune Up Clinics

March

- 16, 18 & 23, Swing Your Way into Spring Golf Tune Up Clinics: Attend one or all 3 clinics for only \$100. One hour clinics will address chipping, putting, warm up techniques, swing assessment

- 19, March Madness Blind 9 Scramble
- 26, Handicap Registration Outing

April

- 7 to 9, Three Days to Better Golf Clinics
- 16, Spring Golf Outing

May

- 22, Adult/child 9 Hole Outing

June

- 19, Father's Day Golf Scramble

July

- 14, Adult/child 9 hole outing
- 16, Summer Scramble
- 23 to 24, Senior Club Championship Tourney

August

- 13, PGA Days: Long drive contest, Putting Contest, Demo Day, golf clinics

September

- 24 and 25, Club Championship

Aberdeen South (Edgewood) Exton Golf Course (Course Reopens for Season)

May

- 7, Scramble for the Roses Spring Scramble

June

- 25, Under the Stars Golf Outing

July

- 21, Adult/child 9 Hole Outing

September

- 17, Greens Keeper Revenge Scramble

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, Bldg. 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID cardholders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Princess Series

Girls ages 3 to 4 will stretch their imaginations as well as their toes as they dance their way through a storybook collage of fairy tales. The Little Princess Workshop will be held 6:15 to 7 p.m., through Feb. 25, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Each of the six-week sessions features one of two fairytales that have been turned into a ballet. Cost is \$45 per child. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Pip Hop

Children ages 4 to 5 can participate in Pip Hop from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. through Feb. 25 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Parents, do your pipsqueaks want to dance like the big kids? Well now is their chance Pip Hop is full of rhythm, body awareness, simple choreography and high energy craziness all set to cool funky music. Parents, let your pipsqueaks get their groove on in this class. Cost is \$45 per child. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Martial Arts at APG present Tiny Tigers

Children ages 4 to 6 can join the Tiny Tigers Unity TaeKwonDo School of Martial Arts at APG.

Parent participation is required. Cost to register is \$40 per person and classes are open to all DoD ID cardholders and Family members.

Instructor Sabunim Sean A. Williams will teach the program. Classes will

be held 5:30 to 6 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays Feb. 23 to March 21; and March 28 to April 18.

The Tiny Tiger program is an age-appropriate version of taekwondo that will help direct energy into confidence and character building skills. Students learn traditional taekwondo techniques such as blocking, punching and kicking including "Stranger Danger" and "Fire Safety" skills.

Students will test every three to six classes. Class size is limited to 12 parent and child parings, so register early.

The Tiny Tigers program will be held at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522.

Tots and Tutus

This toddler dance class is full of stimulation in sight, touch and sound.

Held 5:30 to 6 p.m. Fridays from through Feb. 25, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522, for ages 18 months to 2 and a half years.

This class is a wildly interactive introduction to dance for little ones. Adult participation is required. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Ice skating lessons offered at Ice World

SKIES Unlimited offers ice skating lessons for ages 4 to 18 at Ice World, located at 1300 Governor Court in Abingdon. Lessons cost \$74 per person after using the \$25 coupon. Participants must register with CYSS to receive the \$25 coupon.

Lessons will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Feb. 22 to March 29 and April 5 to May 17; and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays, Feb. 19 to March 26 and April 9 to May 21.

Lessons are open to all DoD ID cardholding Family members.

LEARN TO SKATE is based on the

fundamentals of the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA), and is necessary for those wishing to proceed on to ice hockey or freestyle.

The six weekly sessions offer professional instruction with a half-hour of instruction time and half-hour of practice each week. Limited free skate rent-

als. Classes will be grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions will be provided.

There will be no make-up classes or refunds.

For more information or to register, call Central Registration at 410-278-7571/7479, Bldg. 2503.

February bowling specials

- Early Bird Special: Bowl from 7 to 9 a.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Wednesday to Friday, 2 to 4 p.m., bowl for \$.75 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl one game for \$3.50 and bowl one game free. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one

whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$32. Shoe rental costs \$1.

New bowling rates

Bowling costs \$3 per game, Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; games cost \$3.50 each on Fridays, 9:30 to 11 p.m.; Cosmic Saturdays cost \$3.75 per game; and \$3 per game on Sundays.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Lunch delivery is available for orders of \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

Week of Jan. 31

Special #1: Egg salad sandwich, cookie and regular soda for \$4.25. Special #2: Pepperoni pizza sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

Week of Feb. 7

Special #1: Cheese steak wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.75. Special #2: Chicken cheese steak with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

The Bowling Center also serves breakfast. For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



Community Notes

SUNDAY
JANUARY 30
GREEN HOME PROJECTS

Hoping to go green? Come for an afternoon of crafting green projects for the home to help reduce, reuse, and recycle. This program will be held 12 to 2 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per Family. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

MEET A CRITTER

Check out one of the Center’s live critters up close while discovering what makes that animal special. This free program will be held at 3 p.m. for all ages. No registration is required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 5
YOU CAN AFFORD COLLEGE

Harford Community College will host You Can Afford College from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Joppa Hall. Light refreshments will be served. Attend this free event and individuals will have the opportunity to complete the 2011-2012 Free Application for Federal Aid with professional assistance. Be sure to bring the following for both student and parent: FAFSA

on the Web Worksheet www.fafsa.gov, PIN number to sign electronically www.pin.ed.gov, Social Security number, 2010 Federal Income Tax Return (2009 Federal Return if you have not yet filed for 2010), and 2010 W-2 Statements. The snow date for the event is Feb. 12. For more information, call 443-412-2257.

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 7
GUNPOWDER TOASTMASTERS

The Gunpowder Toastmasters will meet 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m., in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility in Bldg. E-4516, the seminar room. Toastmasters can help people develop better speaking and presentation skills, learn to think quickly and clearly on their feet, build strong leadership abilities and hone their listening skills in a supportive, self-paced and fun atmosphere. Gunpowder Toastmasters meets the first and third Monday of each month (except federal holidays).

For directions, visit <http://gunpowder.freetoasthost.info>.

For information, call Heather McDowell at 410-436-7816.

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 17
YOUTH’S BENEFIT STEM NIGHT

Youth’s Benefit Elementary School,

located on 1901 Fallston Road, Fallston, Md. and the Youth’s Benefit Education Foundations will host its first STEM night, 6 to 8 p.m. This event will expose students and parents to how “cool” STEM projects, concepts, activities and information can be. Volunteers are encouraged to provide experiences for students to participate in a variety of science, technology, engineering, and math activities.

For more information or to volunteer, e-mail Jason Parks at Jason.Parks@hcps.org.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 17 AND 18
PMP CERTIFICATION PREP CONTRACTOR COURSE

The majority of government contracts require DoD contractors to employ certified Project Management Professionals. Harford Community College will offer an intense Project Management Professional (PMP) certification preparation course #25279, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 17 and 18 at the Career Advancement Center, 6245 Guardian Gateway, Suite 108B at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Tuition cost is \$499 per person; course fee is \$300 per person.

For more information, call 443-360-9108.

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 19
TEXAS HOLD’EM

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold Texas Hold’em. A cash game will be held 1 p.m. Registration at 3 p.m., game begins 4 p.m. There is a \$50 buy in. Side tables will be available. First come, first served. There will be sandwiches and a cash bar. For more information, call 410-642-2771.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
MARCH 15 AND 16
ANNUAL WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Registration is open for the Sea Service Leadership Association’s 24th Annual Women’s Leadership Symposium.

This year’s theme is “Connect. Empower. Succeed.” The symposium will offer women from all military branches an opportunity to focus on leadership development. It will also highlight the achievements of women leaders on the front lines across the globe. The symposium will take place at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif.

For more information or to register, visit www.sealeader.org through March 7.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Joan Campbell, 410-278-5668, e-mail joan.campbell@us.army.mil.”

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Sarah Blevins	Walter Holland	Richard Pecoraro	Joya Tucker
Debra Bonsall	Michele Hornberger	Christi Peterson	Luis Villafane
Diane Bratton	Debra Ingram	Angel Quander	Christina Weber
Georgia Braun	Kari Jackson	Michele Reamey	Emily Whaley
Jeanie Calles	Maia Kaiser	Pedro Rodriguez	Fletcher “Chip” Williams
Clark Capers	Jessica Knight	Maria Santiago	Taryn Wilson
Jennifer Devorak	Shantiea Mack	Gloria Scott	Tammy Woodard
Meg Downey	Margaret Nahrgang	Paul Shelley	Bruce Woodmansee
Chris Edwards	Randy Newton	Lena Shelton	Victoria Yates-Sparks
Sabrina Faulkner	Ulrike Neyens	Diane Simmons	
Thomas Garrett	Marie D. Nowak	Philip Sibley	
Holly Geppi	Stephanie Parrett	Rachel Swearingen	
Lynae Green	Ella Patrick	Danielle Terrin	

Tax centers opening at APG North, South

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Tax Center will hold an open house, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Feb. 7 in Bldg. E4227 at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood). The center will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and will offer free preparation of simple and intermediate federal and state tax returns for active duty military members, their Families and retirees.

The APG North (Aberdeen) tax cen-

ter, Bldg. 4313, will open Feb. 14 and will provide service from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. This location will offer free basic and more advanced tax preparation assistance to active duty service members, Family members and retirees.

For information and updates, visit www.apg.army.mil and select the Services directory, Installation Support Offices – Legal (ILO).

Post Shorts

UMUC Session II Start Up Event set Feb. 15

University of Maryland University College is sponsoring a Session II Start Up Event Tuesday, Feb. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at UMUC’s APG office, Room 210 of the Janet M. Barr Soldier Support Center on Susquehanna Avenue.

Advisors will be available to help you put together a degree plan and get started on the path to reach your educational goals. As an added incentive, students who make application at this event will have their \$50 application fee waived (not available for Doctor of Management applicants).

Call 410-272-8269 with any questions.

Citizenship classes set

The ACS Relocation Readiness Program is offering free classes for Soldiers, civilian employees and their Families in preparing to take the test for American Citizenship given by Immigration and Naturalization. The classes will covers citizenship procedures, how to fill out the application for American citizenship, basic American history, and the Constitution. Attendees must attend all sessions to receive a Harford Community College certificate for attending a Citizenship class. Seating is limited. Classes will be held in six sessions on Thursdays March 3 to April 7, 6-8 p.m., at the ACS Bldg. 2503 on High Point Road at APG North (Aberdeen). To register, call 410-278-2464/7572.

FNSI, EA available for review

The Joint Program Executive Office conducted an environmental assessment of the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects associated with construction and operation of a new building for JPEO Chemical and Biological Defense at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood). The JPEO-CBD building would be used by the JPEO for research, development, acquisition, fielding and life-cycle support of chemical and biological defense equipment and medical countermeasures. The draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact are available for review by call-

ing 410-306-2285 until March 7. Comments can be addressed to USAGAPG, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PW (Carol Young), 4304 Susquehanna Avenue, 3rd Floor, Wing B, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005-5001.

Blue Cross visits Feb. 8

A claim representative from the Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield will visit APG Feb. 8 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 314, Room 151E, and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. E4520, Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary. For more information, call Teri Wright at 410-278-4331.

Black History Month Observance

Team APG will present the annual Black History Month Observance at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 9 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. Guest speaker will be David Wilson, President, Morgan State University. This year’s theme is African Americans and the Civil War. There will be food, displays, entertainment and artifacts.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Laquita Wimbley at 410-652-2464; Nise Dudley at 410-436-7012; Linda Patrick at 410-436-1023 or Master Sgt. Michelle Davis at 410-436-9786.

CBRNIAC Forum set Feb. 15

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Information Analysis Center will hold a technical forum on Food Protection from Rad Threats 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 15 at Battelle Eastern Science & Technology Center, 1204 Technology Drive in Aberdeen.

Presentations and discussions will revolve around key issues regarding food protection and defense, specific problems that emerge as a result of radiological contamination and how the technical and response communities can achieve mission interoperability and interagency cooperation. Issues to be discussed include

- Requirements
- Capabilities

- Where do we go from here?
- For more information or to register, visit <https://www.cbrniac.apgea.army.mil/iacforum/>.

Monthly retirement ceremony

The Aberdeen Proving Ground monthly retirement ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m., Feb. 24 at Dickson Hall, Bldg. 3074.

USAG APG Garrison Commander and Deputy Installation Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz will host the ceremony. Community members, personnel and family are encouraged to attend. One military member and two civilians are slated to retire. For more information, call Lisa Waldon at 410-278-4353.

Warm up with a purchase of green energy at APG

Aberdeen Proving Ground has firewood available at a cost of \$10 per pickup truckload, a standard half-ton truck.

Permits to buy wood are good for seven days or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Permits will be issued on a first-come, first served basis at APG South (Edgewood) in Bldgs. E4630 & E5774, Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; and as of Feb. 1 at APG North (Aberdeen) in Bldg. 4304 on the third floor, Wing A on Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. and Thursdays from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

For more information, call Scott English at 410-436-9804, Roger Stoflet at 410-436-7379; or Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789.

Local Hazards Course

The Local Hazards Course is designed to familiarize drivers new to the installation with local driving hazards. The course is mandatory for all Soldiers and Family members who drive, civilians and contractors within 90 days of their arrival at APG. It is also mandatory for anyone who is TDY for 30 days or more at APG and Soldiers younger than 25.

The 30-minute course is held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 4305, Room 243B.

Intermediate Driver’s Course

This two-and-a-half hour course is held 1 to 3:30 p.m. in Bldg. 4305, Room 243B. Course dates are Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, May 11, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 31, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

Additional LHC and IDC classes will be added as needed.

Attendees must register online at AIRS through the APG Web site or at <https://airs.lmi.org>.

For more information, call 410-306-1081.

EA site diesel dispenser is operational

The Edgewood Area site diesel dispenser located at Bldg. E4019 (next to the Shoppette) is now operational. This facility is available for government vehicles and authorized contractors only. A VILKEY (fuel key) is required to operate the pump. The diesel dispenser facility is open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The diesel dispenser is closed on weekends and federal holidays. Vehicle operators should fill up before the weekend, especially during the winter season. For more information, including emergencies or VILKEY issues, call the DOL Fuel team POCs, Carlos Diaz at 410-306-1632, DSN: 458-1632, or e-mail carlos.diazjr@us.army.mil and Victor Duarte at 410-278-2160, DSN 298-2160 or email vic.duarte@us.army.mil.

TSA Secure Flight Program

The Army G-4 has announced that effective Nov. 1, TSA will require all passengers to have Secure Flight Passenger Data (SFPD) in their reservation at least 72 hours prior to departure. SFPD includes the traveler’s full name (without rank, titles, and/or suffixes), date of birth, and gender. The traveler’s full name must match the government issued ID card used at the airport. Currently, the Defense Travel System requires verification of this information each time a traveler creates an authorization.

For more information, visit <https://forums.bcks.army.mil/Community-Browser.aspx?id=1192183>

More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.

Know the high cost of free Wi-Fi

By **JOE FERRARE**
Garrison APG Public Affairs Specialist

The good news is that smart phones, pads, apps, e-readers and all the other new gadgets and services are making our lives more convenient. The bad news is that they may be doing exactly the same thing for the bad guys out to gut our bank accounts.

What are the actual threats out there, and what can we do about them? The APG News will answer that question for readers with Tech Talk, a monthly column that will give the non-techie population the skinny on the dangers, and delights, of our modern world.

The first subject is a cautionary tale about mobility, privacy, the price of free Wi-Fi.

Free Wi-fi is great. It lets you check your mail or surf the web while you're at an airport or eating a burger. It takes some of the sting out of a \$5 coffee. But when you pop open your laptop or whip out your smart phone, you may also be doing the online equivalent of laying your wallet on the table.

A little technical talk is needed to understand why this is so, and so dangerous.

When you click on a link the web page or e-mail your request is broken down into a series of packets. Packets are good because the internet doesn't have to maintain them in an uninterrupted stream. It can send some packets by the high road and some by the low road. Packets carry information about themselves, so they can arrive out of order, and your web browser only has to ask for the missing bits.

In essence it turns a web page into a paint-by-numbers picture, except that instead of looking for dark green for a whole area, your browser looks for packet 1,000, and packet 1,000 fits exactly into the space marked for it.

Some packets don't end up on your screen, however. They are stored in the form of cookies. There are session cookies, persistent cookies, super cookies and even zombie cookies. If I customize a webpage, the browser writes a cookie that says something like "give Joe 20 search results at a time." That book in my online shopping cart is really just a cookie that says "Joe intends to buy The Complete Works of Shakespeare." But cookies are also used to identify us. When I log into a social media site it deposits a cookie that says, "This is Joe. Seriously, I checked." Then



the social media site knows to trust me.

But what if someone could peek at your packets and cookies, figure out what you were doing and even pretend to be you? It turns out that trick has been around for awhile. Using software called packet sniffers, a hacker could find your cookies and hijack your identity. Of course, that hacker needs access to your internet traffic.

If you're at home and you've put a password on your wireless you're safe. But what if you're at the book store using their free Wi-Fi? It turns out that if it's an open network – the kind where you don't have to log in at all – then anybody can sniff your packets right there in public.

This used to be of limited interest because it took some knowledge to pull off. Not anymore. Somebody has written a free piece of software called Firesheep that makes this process easy. The program sniffs around and presents the user with a list of targets – fellow web surfers whose traffic it can see. It even shows them which services those web surfers are using that it can hijack.

Firesheep has to know some things about a site in order to hijack a session with that site. Right now it only knows about certain sites, but that list includes Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and other popular sites.

But if the hundreds of thousands of people who have downloaded it know what they're doing – or know someone who does – they can extend the program to hijack more sites. The most important sites,

such as banks, myPay, etc., use a secure way of transmitting information, so it's unlikely that Firesheep will give anyone access to your bank account. However, once someone hijacks your social media session he can not only post in your name, he can get at your profile information, see all your past messages, notes and postings. It's easy to see how that could become embarrassing, if not expensive.

So, what to do? First, think about how much you need the convenience of free public Wi-Fi. There's no better security than not being where bad things happen. If you must use public Wi-Fi, think about which pages you really need to look at. Read the news, search for restaurants or watch cat videos on a free network, but save your social media sessions for later.

Second, use a secure log-in if the website offers one. One easy way is to change the beginning of the website's address from http://... to https://... That extra "s" stands for secure. If you use the Firefox web browser, there are two plug-ins called HTTPS-everywhere and Force-TLS that make Firefox use the more secure connection. There may be similar extensions for other browsers.

If you want to spend money, you can use a Virtual Private Network service. That encrypts the traffic from your computer or smart phone to the VPN provider's servers, which aren't located in coffee shops or airports where anybody can get at their signals.

If you have a device that allows you to use a cell phone signal to access the internet, you can be your own private network. This also costs money, but many new smart phones offer the ability to set up a 3G Wi-Fi hotspot for several devices at the same time.

Firesheep was released in late October, and some people in the security world have been scrambling to find fixes and work-arounds ever since. You can bet, however, that others have been working just as hard to find new ways to get at your information. The digital economy and social networks are merging, so it's a good idea to spend a little of your time on the web keeping up with the threats.

If you have a suggestion for a Tech Talk topic, e-mail editor@apg-conus.army.mil and write "Tech Talk Topic" in the subject line.



Lunchtime yoga offers mid-day escape

Rachel Ponder, APG News reporter, de-stresses during lunchtime yoga class taught by Katie Rachanow and offered through the installation's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Follow Ponder and fellow APG News reporter Yvonne Johnson as they attempt to experience all the exercise options APG has to offer. Community members can visit APG Live at apg.armylive.dodlive.mil and MilBlog at blog.kc.us.army.mil, to read about their adventures and share their own experiences. "People are starting to respond to our blog posts," said Ponder. "We're not the only ones out there who are interested in getting fit in the New Year."

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Simplified acquisition threshold at \$150K

Continued from Page 1

- Commercial items between \$150,000 and \$5 million – July 1
- Commercial items under \$150,000 – July 1
- Services over \$150,000 – July 1
- Delivery orders and task orders under existing contracts – Aug. 2
- GSA schedule procurements – Aug. 2
- Short-of-award over \$2,500 – June 15**
- Maintenance for FY 2012 – July 1 (FY 12 contract modifications and options for existing maintenance contracts)

* There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is therefore required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief or an appropriate team leader prior to this date.

**Customers submitting "short-of-award" PRs, especially for services requirements, must consider whether funding will materialize. These PRs must be prioritized after PRs that are funded and PRs that are subject to the availability of funds. Short-of-award actions not funded in FY11 should be funded in FY12 as a bonifide need.

"These cutoff dates are not only for the PR, but includes supporting documentation and approvals," said AICD Chief Martha Mitchem. "Customers should note that the simplified acquisition threshold has been raised from \$100,000 to \$150,000."

• New requirement this year: If only one proposal is received, must republish the requirement for an additional 30

days. If out for 30 days and only receive one offer, negotiations must take place. These actions would require a minimum of 30 days extra time to award.

- When placing sole source orders over micro-purchase thresholds (FAR 2.101: \$3,000 for supplies; \$2,500 for services subject to Service Contract Act; \$2,000 for construction subject to David-Bacon Act), under Federal Supply Schedules, a Justification and Approval must be prepared by the customer and approved by a Contracting Officer.

- All service requirements must be approved for purchase prior to submittal to the AICD IAW established agency procedures as directed by the Secretary of the Army memo, Army Policy for Civilian Hiring and Initiation/Continuation of Contracts for Service Personnel, 23 Feb 06. Go to <http://www.asamra.army.mil/insourcing/> to obtain approval forms and view associated regulations.

- Information Technology: Desktop and Notebook Computer Purchases. To maximize cost savings, all Army desktops and notebooks "shall" be ordered through the Consolidated Buy program utilizing the Army Desktop and Mobile Computing Agreements. For policy memo issued by the Army's Chief Information Officer on July 22, 2005, Buying Schedule, Specs and Pricing, Submittal Instructions, Request Preparation, Exceptions, and Frequently

Asked Questions, visit the Consolidated Buy page at: https://ascp.monmouth.army.mil/scp/cb/cb_index.jsp. Requests for these items must be submitted to the Network Enterprise Center (formerly DOIM). For standard requests, NEC will approve the request and forward it to the AICD for processing. For non-standard requests, NEC will review and validate the request and then forward it to AICD.

Between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30, the

AICD receives more than 2,500 purchase requests for FY-end award which could be an unmanageable task if cooperation is not obtained.

"PRs are not the only information needed for a successful year," said Mitchem. "Knowing what the acquisition packages must include, how requests should be submitted, new requirements and other details are crucial information."

"Early planning continues to remain the key to a successful year-end."

Know who to contact:

Alison Gannon, Installation Contracting Branch alison.gannon@us.army.mil, 410-278-0828

Kimmie Edwards, Facilities Team Kimmie.edwards@us.army.mil (for repair, alteration, construction, sale and removal of excess real property, services for base operations functions, equipment-in-place and facilities)

Jason VanLuven, Technology Team, jason.vanluven@us.army.mil, 410-278-0883 (for information technology / IT equipment and services; word processing equipment; software; general, specialized, and test equipment; instrumentation; supplies; and IT maintenance)

Renee Hodge, Mission Contracting Branch, jacqueline.renee.hodge@us.army.mil, 410-278-0881

Services Team (for the purchase of base support and services for core customers; equipment-in-place; range testing of vehicles, equipment, ammunition; lease, rental, and maintenance of equipment; full food services; and environmental services)

For assistance, visit the contract center's website: <http://www.rdecom-ac.army.mil>.

It includes guides, templates, formats and helpful Web sites.



Boeing footprint

Bobby Cartmill, from defense contractor Boeing, and Gary Martin, executive deputy to the commander of U.S. Army RDECOM, discuss Boeing's ScanEagle Compressed Carriage. Attendees viewed demonstrations after a ribbon cutting celebrated the opening of the field office at the GATE at Aberdeen Proving Ground North (Aberdeen) Jan. 31. The GATE is a technology park constructed on post to accommodate the growing number of defense contractors moving to the area as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure. Roger Krone, president of Network and Space Systems for the Boeing Company, said the organization's on-post footprint really places them where they need to be. "It will allow us to interact on a daily basis with our customers," said Krone. Visit flickr.com/photos/usagapg/ for more photos.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

Golden eagle discovered at APG



Continued from Page 1

participated in the survey, which was conducted by helicopter and lasted more than three hours.

Baylor said the surveyors flew at about 500 feet over the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area shorelines, Pooles Island and the Susquehanna River shoreline to the Peach Bottom area and back looking for adult and juvenile eagles. The total count was down from last year's tally, which yielded 239.

"It's lower than last year, but it's nothing to be alarmed about unless the numbers keep going down," Baylor said.

The 2011 Mid-Winter Eagle Survey is part of a national survey of the protected

Courtesy photo

This year's eagle count was lower than last year but officials say its no cause for concern.

species. Of the 163 total eagles, there were 88 adults and 51 sub-adults on APG.

"On the Susquehanna survey route, 13 adult bald eagles and 10 sub-adults were counted," she said.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the bald eagle will continue to be protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act even though it has been delisted under the Endangered Species Act. This law, originally passed in 1940, provides for the protection of the bald eagle and the golden eagle (as amended in 1962) by prohibiting the take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, of any bald

or golden eagle, alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg, unless allowed by permit (16 U.S.C. 668(a); 50 CFR 22).

"Take" includes pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb (16 U.S.C. 668c; 50 CFR 22.3). The 1972 amendments increased civil penalties for violating provisions of the Act to a maximum fine of \$5,000 or one year imprisonment with \$10,000 or not more than two years in prison for a second conviction. Felony convictions carry a maximum fine of \$250,000 or two years of imprisonment. The fine doubles for an organization. Rewards are provided for information leading to arrest and conviction for violation of the Act.

For more information, visit <http://www.fws.gov/>.

Buying back time beneficial for some

Continued from Page 1

Retirement System prior to Oct. 1, 1982, and those who first became subject to Civil Service Retirement deductions after Oct. 1, 1982.

Those in the latter group must pay the deposit to receive credit for military service in their CSRS or Federal Employee Retirement System annuity.

Those covered by CSRS prior to Oct. 1, 1982, may choose not to deposit and still receive credit for their service in annuities. But if they are eligible for Social Security benefits (i.e.: they have 40 quarters of Social Security coverage at age 62), at that time they will lose credit for military service in their CSRS annuities and their annuities will be reduced. If they pay the deposit, they will receive credit for their military service under both CSRS and Social Security.

"Under CSRS retirement, employees receive credit for eligibility purposes with or without a deposit," said Teri Wright, human resources specialist with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. "And under FERS retirement, employees must make the deposit for eligibility purposes."

Buying back military service is not mandatory and may not be a good investment for some people.

DFAS notes that "someone with military retirement pay who wants to retire under the Federal Employee Retirement System would probably be better off keeping their military retirement pay. People just have to do the arithmetic and figure out how that would affect their retirement check. It's a very personal decision."

Although active duty time is automatically considered for reduction in force purposes, it is not automatically considered for retirement pay.

New civilian employees with active duty service have three years to buy back their time. After that, the government charges interest on the money that needs to be paid back to buy retirement time. Therefore, it is best that employees request the amount of military earnings soon after beginning work. Employees then know how much the deposit is and can choose to pay it before interest begins accruing.

The interest is charged on a percentage of their military earnings and the rate is tied to Treasury earnings. In 1997, it was 6.875 percent, and in the past it has gone as high as 13 percent.

To buy back military service time

for civilian service retirement, veterans must get their estimated earnings from their appropriate finance center.

Wright said employees can contact the CPAC for the RI 20-97, Estimated Earnings During Military Service form. A copy of DD Form 214 or equivalent must accompany the request.

Employees must use a separate request for each branch of service. If no DD Form 214 or equivalent is available, employees must request a Standard Form 180 through the CPAC to have their service verified before forwarding the request form to the pay center.

For more information, contact Wright at teri.wright@us.army.mil or call 410-278-4331. For more DoD pay information, contact DFASLane at www.dfas.mil

Expanded search may result in evacutaions

Continued from Page 1

number of digs required to have 95 percent confidence level.

"The software then takes that number and imposes a random sampling of locations throughout the area," Loder said. "Basically, it's a 50-foot by 50-foot grid. We dig up everything in that grid that's metallic – though we're looking not for bullets, but munitions."

"We avoid buildings and roads and parking lots, but wherever else a grid falls we have to dig there to maintain the

integrity of the search," he said. "Some of the grids might be 30 feet away from a building. If we find something in a grid that close to a building we will evacuate the building before we proceed, just to be safe."

Loder said the team is using a combination electro-magnetic survey equipment and handheld magnetometer.

"It looks for metal that is underneath the ground. The basic technology hasn't changed much, but the software and the

processing of that information is much better," he said.

This is hardly a new issue for APG.

"APG has already identified this problem and has put the digging permit process in place so that a search is conducted to keep people safe. It's important to remind people not to put a shovel in the ground before getting a permit," he said.

Loder expects the field work on Edgewood to be finished by June or July.

“ We avoid buildings, roads and parking lots, but ... we dig to maintain the integrity of the search. ”

ECBC urged to showcase accomplishments

Continued from Page 1

as well as selecting papers that won awards, including the prestigious Paul A. Siple Memorial Award.

"We tried to maximize the poster sessions to be as inclusive as possible while maintaining high quality," Valdes said. "At times, we had to make some very hard choices."

The four-day conference included 18 parallel technical sessions covering topics as wide-ranging as Power and Energy, Biotechnology, Network Science,

and Neuroscience. The sessions supported the conference's theme: Transformational Science and Technology – Enabling Full Spectrum Operations.

"Dr. Valdes was instrumental in ensuring the Army had a high quality scientific conference that was focused on warfighter needs both present and future," said ECBC Technical Director Joseph D. Wienand.

At the closing banquet, theoretical physicist S. James Gates, Jr., Ph.D., pre-

sented a talk called "The Third STEM Crisis: Defending the American Dream in the New Millennium."

Valdes has chaired the Technical Program Committee in previous years and plans to stay involved in future conferences. He encourages ECBC to participate more fully to showcase our accomplishments to the Army.

"As a critical national asset in the CB defense community, ECBC has the opportunity to have direct interaction

with our stakeholders and the warfighter when attending the Army Science Conference and others like it," Wienand said. "Each year, new technologies are created, processes developed and answers to some of the most pressing scientific questions have their origin in an ECBC facility. It's important for us to share that research, science and engineering with those it impacts most."

For more information about ECBC, please visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.